Examination Bye-Laws 1995 of the Board provides for verification of marks. Out of the number of 25,562 candidates who had applied for rechecking of Marks for Class XII Examination held in 1997, marks have been changed in 1009 cases as a result of rechecking so far. The process of rechecking of the 1997 examination is still going on.

(c) and (d) The Board does not consider it administratively feasible to change the existing system to re-evaluation.

Protection of Neglected Monuments

1164. DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether several monuments in the country are not being maintained by the Archaeological Survey of India because of paucity of funds;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government to protect the monuments neglected by the Archaeological survey of India?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI): (a) to (c) The maintenance and conservation of centrally protected monuments by the Archaeological Survey of India is a continuous process. These monuments are inspected regularly by the officers of the Archaeological Survey of India. Conservation measures are taken up according to the actual requirements of the monuments.

Introduction of yoga practice in schools

1165. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH "SURYA": Will the Minister of HU MAN .RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pelascd to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to introduce yoga practice in schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and whether Government would consider this matter and implement it in a phased manner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Promotion of Yoga in Schools since 1989-90. Under the Scheme, assitance was given to States/UTs and yoga institutions of repute for training yoga teachers. Funds were given for inrastructure viz. construction of hostel for teacher trainees and upgradation of library and boarding and lodging/incidentals for teacher trainees @ Rs.600/- p.m. per trainee. As against the 8th Plan target to cover 7500 teachers under this Scheme, assistance for training was given to 7383 teachers. This Scheme is scheduled to be wound up from the current financial year (1997-98). However, action is being taken to integrate yoga as a part of the regular school syllabus.

Discrimination Against yoga Teacher in Kendriya Vidyalayas

1166. SHRI BRATIN SEN GUPTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that even after 16 years of service the Yoga teachers of Central Schools do not enjoy senior scale;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any steps arc being taken to grant senior scale to Yoga teachers of Kendriya Vidyalayas;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the Yoga teachers of Kendriya Vidyalayas have been kept in the pay scale of 1400-2300 whereas other teachers have been kept in the pay scale of Rs. 1400-2600; and

(c) if so, whether the discrimination towards Yoga teachers of Kendriya Vidyalayas will be removed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (c) Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has informed

that the scheme of teaching Yoga in Kendriya Vidyalayas was started in 1981-82 on an experimental basis and later it was decided for continuing the scheme on a regular basis.

The qualifications and pay scales of Yoga teachers (Rs. 1400-2300) were lower than those of Trained Graduate Teachers (Rs. 1400-2600) who have been granted the benefit of senior scale of pay.

The Board of Governors of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan in 1995 decided to confirm those Yoga teachers who fulfilled the revised prescribed qualifications of graduation with three months training in Yoga. The question of giving higher scales of pay to the Yoga teachers who have been confirmed can be considered in the light of the recommendations of 5th Pay Commission as accepted by the Government.

Boarding and hostel facilities for girls

1167. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Central Scheme for strengthening of boarding and hostel facilities for girls students of secondary and higher secondary schools is under implementation in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the salient features of the scheme and hostels provided under the scheme in the state so far;

(c) whether the scheme has helped the State in increasing the ratio of retention of girl students; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUH RAM SAIKIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the Scheme, financial assistance is being given to eligible voluntary organisations to improve the enrolment of adolescent girls belonging to rural areas and weaker sections. Preference in providing assistance is given to hostels located in educationally backward districts, particularly those predominantly inhabited by SCs/STs and educationally backward minorities in the secondary and higher secondary schools.

Assistance under the scheme is provided for purchase of furniture, utensils, recreational aids etc. and for food for students and salary of cook and warden etc.

So far five hostels have been sanctioned in State of Maharashtra.

(c) and (d) An evaluation of the whole scheme to find out the real impact of the scheme is due to be undertaken this year.

Navodaya Vidyalayas in Arunachal Pradesh

1168. SHRI NABAM REBIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pelased to state:

(a) how many Navodaya Vidyalayas have been established in Arunachal Pradesh; whether all such Navodaya Vidyalayas have been provided with all the necessary infrastructure facilities;

(b) what are the norms laid down for admission in such schools; and

(c) whether the locals who voluntarily donate lands for opening such schools are given some preference in the matters of admissions; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) Seven (7) Navodaya Vidyalayas have been sanctioned in Arunachal Pradesh. Construction of permanent Vidyalaya buildings has been taken up for all the Vidyalayas except in Lower Subansiri district where the land has not yet been transferred to the Samiti. There is shortage of accommodation in the temporary buildings where these schools are run, but all basic minimum facilities like electricity, water arc provided to these Vidyalaya.

(b) Admission to Navodaya Vidyalaya is made only at Class VI on the basis of Test by N.C.E.R.T. A candidate appearing for the selection test must be studying in Class V in a recognised school in that District, where he/she is seeking admission and should be between 9-13 years of age as on 1st of May of the year of admission. The candidate must have also